

Applicants : David M. Mitteer et al.
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REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application as amended is requested.

Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 1-9 and 17-22 are allowed, and that claims 12-16 contain allowable subject matter. Claims 12 and 14 have been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of independent claim 10 and any intervening dependent claims, such that claims 12-16 are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 10 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Bosley et al. U.S. Patent No. 4,690,371.

Claim 10 has been amended to recite that at least a portion of the elongated body is made of a non-ferromagnetic first material. The pole pieces 17 and 18 of Bosley '371 are made of iron, and this clearly cannot be a "non-ferromagnetic first material" as recited in amended claim 10. Applicants respectfully submit that Bosley '371 does not teach or suggest the arrangement of amended claim 10.

Claim 11 depends from claim 10, and is therefore believed to be allowable for those reasons set forth above in connection with claim 10.

New claim 23 is similar to original claim 10, and further recites that the second material encapsulating at least a portion of the magnet does not completely encapsulate the elongated body, such that a portion of an exposed outer surface of the elongated body is formed by the first material. In contrast, the encapsulation 16 of Bosley '371 appears to completely encapsulate the iron pole pieces 17 and 18, and the magnet 14. Accordingly, Bosley '371 is not believed to teach or suggest the arrangement of new claim 23.

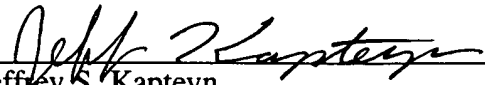
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Applicants have made a concerted effort to the place the present application in condition for allowance, and a notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. In the event there are any remaining informalities, the courtesy of a telephone call to the undersigned attorney would be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

10/27/06



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